LEES

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1961

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

COUNCIL OFFICES,
CROSS STREET, LEES,
NR. OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES.

Chairman of the Council 1961-1962.

Councillor L. Vaughan J.P.

Health Committee 1961 - 1962.

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman.

Councillor J. Gartside.

Councillor S. Pearson.

Councillor F. Ward.

Councillor H. Travis J.P.

Councillor F. Rowland.

Councillor H. Slack.

Councillor H. Hirst.

Councillor J. G. Gartside.

Councillor L. Vaughan J.P.

Councillor O. Bevan.

Councillor F. Bennett.

Councillor F. Scholes.

Councillor A. M. J. Bradley.

Councillor W. Dixon.

Medical Officer of Health.

G. R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

"Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

Tel: MAIN 6251/2.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

E. J. H. FOSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors

VERNON K. HALLOWS, M.A.P.H.I. (to 7th May, 1961).

-and-

J. W. RUSTIDGE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (from 17th July, 1961).

Council Offices, Lees.

Tel: MAIN 1102.

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Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees,
Nr. Oldham.

July, 1962.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Urban District Council of Lees.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the district for the year 1961.

The details of the year's activities are described and tabulated in the body of the report. The form of some of these tables has been varied from that used in previous reports and it is hoped that this will improve their clarity and make them a more valuable source of information.

The population of the district again decreased slightly during the year. The birth-rate remained unchanged at 12.4 per 1,000, but the number of deaths was greater, 67 compared with 59 in 1960, giving an adjusted death-rate of 18.3 compared with a national rate of 12.0 per thousand.

In the late summer and autumn of the year, outbreaks of poliomyelitis occurred in several parts of the country, including the south-east Lancashire area. Although, fortunately, no cases occurred in Lees, adjacent areas were involved, and several deaths were recorded from acute forms of the disease. The circumstances of the outbreak emphasised once again the importance of obtaining protection from those diseases against which immunization is available, and in particular, the need for the parents of young children to realise, and accept their responsibilities in this matter.

In conclusion I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support throughout the year, and I wish to acknowledge the valuable and willing assistance given by the Clerk of the Council and the Staff of the Health Department.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. R. Brackenridge.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

(1)

Area in acres 288

Population.

Census	1951	4,160
Estimated	1961	3,730

Number of Inhabited Houses.

Estimated	1961	 1,426
Rateable Value		.....£47,231
Sum represented by a Penny rate		..... £141
General rate per pound 1961/62		..... 21s. 6d.

(2)

General Characteristics and Social Condition of the District.

The district lies immediately to the east of Oldham, being between the boundary of this County Borough and the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Originally, the village was developed around the cotton mills, which were formally and principally the main source of local employment. However there are only two mills in active production in the district, whilst the remainder are converted to other industries, or used as storage premises. One mill is in the process of demolition.

The provision of a local Child Welfare Centre and Civil Defence premises is in progress. By the end of the year building was virtually complete and it was expected that the Child Welfare Centre would open early in the new year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births (Total)			42
	Males.	Females.	
Legitimate	24	14	
Illegitimate	4	-	
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population:-			
Crude Rate			11.3
Adjusted Rate			12.4
(Comparability Factor 1.10).			
Illegitimate Live Births per cent total of live births.			9.5
Stillbirths			Nil
Stillbirth Rate per 1000 live and still births			Nil
Total live and stillbirths			42
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)			Nil
	Males.	Females.	
Legitimate	-	-	
Illegitimate	-	-	
Infant Mortality Rates			
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births.			Nil
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births..			Nil
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births..			Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births).			Nil
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)..			Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births)..			Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate (including abortion)			Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1000 live and still births.....			Nil
Total deaths (all ages)			67
Death rate per 1000 population:-			
Crude Rate			18.0
Adjusted Rate			18.3
(Comparability Factor 1.02)			
Principal Causes of Death:-			
Diseases of Heart & Circulation			35
Cancer (all sites)			7
Vascular Lesion of the Nervous System.....			7

Comparability Factor.

This factor takes into account the age structure of the local population as compared with that of England and Wales as a whole, and makes it possible to compare local rates with national rates.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS.

		1961.	1960.	1956	1951	1938.
Population.		3,730	3,890	4,040	4,160	4,271
Live Births.	No. Adj. Rate	42 12.4	44 12.4	48 13.2	53 12.6	46 10.7
Still Births.	No. Rate.	0 Nil	1 22.2	2 40	4 70.2	2 41.7
Total (Live & Still Births).	No.	42	45	50	57	48
Total Infant Deaths.	No. Rate.	0 Nil	2 45.5	1 21	2 37.7	3 65
Maternal Deaths.	No. Rate.	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil
Total Deaths.	No. Adj.Rate	67 18.3	59 15.8	49 12.6	74 16.0	65 15.2

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	M.	F.	1961. Total	1960. Total	1959. Total	1958. Total	1957. Total
Syphilitic disease.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	3	-	3	1	1	2	1
Lung & Bronchus	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Breast	-	-	-	2	-	1	2
Uterus	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Other sites.	1	2	3	4	7	4	3
Diabetes.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	2	7	11	14	6	5
Coronary disease, angina.	8	7	15	9	9	6	8
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
Other heart disease.	2	10	12	9	9	12	9
Other circulatory disease.	2	5	7	7	6	7	5
Influenza.	2	-	2	-	-	1	3
Pneumonia.	1	1	2	3	2	1	4
Bronchitis.	6	2	8	5	8	3	7
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	1	-	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	1	-	1	-	1	2	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate.	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Pregnancy.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital malformations.	-	-	-	1	2	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	1	2	1	1	4	3
Motor vehicle accidents.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
All other accidents.	-	1	1	-	2	1	2
Suicide.	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Totals	35	32	67	59	65	53	60

DEATHS - BY AGE GROUPS.

YEARS.	M.	F.	1961. Total	1960. Total	1959. Total	1958. Total	1957. Total
Under 1	-	-	-	2	1	2	1
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
25 - 45	2	-	2	-	2	1	1
45 - 65	12	6	18	19	19	17	18
65 - 75	9	9	18	13	23	13	17
Over - 75	12	17	29	25	19	20	21
Totals	35	32	67	59	65	53	60

INFANT MORTALITY - 1961.

Cause of Death.	Under 1 day	1 to 6 days	1 to 4 weeks	1 to 3 months	3 to 12 months	Total.
	-	-	-	-	-	Nil
Total.....	-	-	-	-	-	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY AND STILLBIRTHS - COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	1961	1960	1956	1951	1938
STILLBIRTH RATE. (per 1000 total births).	Nil	22.2	40	70.2	41
NEO NATAL RATE. (per 1000 live births).	Nil	Nil	Nil	18.8	65
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1000 live births).	Nil	45.5	21	37.7	65

It is very pleasing to be able to report that there were neither stillbirths nor infant deaths during 1961, and that once again, there were no deaths associated with pregnancy or childbirth. These facts reflect the improving standard of medical and social care of mothers and young children in recent years.

PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE - 1961.

(Other than Tuberculosis).

Notifiable Disease.	Total Notified Cases in Age Groups.												Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
	Total Cases at all ages.	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-		
Scarlet Fever.	10	-	-	1	1	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	22	-	2	4	2	4	9	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-Non-Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	6	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	38	-	2	5	3	5	18	2	1	1	1	-	-	2

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
YEARLY TOTALS.

Notifiable Diseases.	1961	1960	1956	1951	1938
Scarlet Fever.	10	2	7	1	13
Measles.	22	43	-	117	-
Whooping Cough.	-	3	2	18	-
Polio - Paralytic.	-	1	-	1	-
Polio - Non Paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	6	6	1	6	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	7	-	-
Acute Pneumonia.	-	3	1	3	5
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	1	2	-	-
Diphtheria.	-	-	-	-	5
Smallpox.	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection.	-	-	-	1	-
Erysipelas.	-	-	-	-	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	-	1
Totals.....	38	59	20	147	26

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The decrease in the number of cases of infectious disease was chiefly due to a fall in the number of cases of measles notified.

The total of 10 cases of scarlet fever was the highest for some years, but with modern antibiotic treatment, this disease presents a much less serious problem than formerly.

Cases Notified and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1961.

Ages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
Totals....	3		2		-		-	

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of personal health services. These services e.g.

Care of Mothers and Young Children.
Mental Health Services.
Home Help Services.
Ambulance Services.
Care of School Children.
Care of the Aged.
General Welfare Services.

are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by Divisional Health Committee No. 14 through the Divisional Medical Officer, "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton, (Tel: MAIN 6251).

Ante-natal clinics are held fortnightly at the new High Street Centre and child welfare clinics weekly. No school clinic facilities are available so school children attend in other parts of the Division. Home helps are available to attend households where necessary in cases of confinement, illness, old age and infirmity. Over 70% of the demands on this service are for the care of the aged and infirm. A charge is made for home help services dependent on the means of the person helped.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee without regard to local authority boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other foods is undertaken, without charge to the authority, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, 10.

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:

Inspection of houses re fitness for human habitation.
Control of infectious disease (Including food poisoning).
Control and inspection of meat.
Control of food and food preparing premises.
Provision of suitable water supplies.
Detection and prevention of nuisances.
Prevention of atmospheric pollution.
Control of rodent and insect infestations.
Collection and disposal of refuse.
Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences.

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.
July, 1962.

Report of the Public Health Inspector.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to submit the Annual Report upon the sanitary administration of the district for the year 1961.

Some routine work was delayed due to the departure of Mr. V. K. Hallows in early May until my arrival in July, but the essential services were maintained. Details of the work accomplished are given in the following pages.

May I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support, and to the Clerk of the Council and Council Officials for their assistance and co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

J. W. Rustidge.

Public Health Inspector.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The whole district is drained and sewered but the Authority possesses no sewage disposal works. Sewage is conveyed to sewers of the Oldham County Borough via three main junctions, the respective flows being measured by Lea recorders, and is treated by that authority at their disposal works in Slacks Valley, Chadderton.

Public Cleansing.

A weekly collection of household refuse is maintained throughout the year; collection being direct from household bins to a motor vehicle and disposal by tipping. Tins are recovered for salvage whilst the refuse is being hand levelled at the tip face and some paper is removed for incineration on the tip top.

Dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the general rate fund. 113 dustbins were supplied during the year as replacements. The number of moveable dustbins in the district is some 1522.

Rodent Control.

No full-time rodent operative is employed, all necessary works being carried out by members of the road maintenance staff who have attended Ministry courses of instruction in rodent destruction. The sewer system receives a twice yearly treatment when labour permits and complaints of rodent infestation are handled as circumstances dictate. 23 infestations were successfully treated throughout the year.

Sanitary Accommodation.

All houses in the district are on the water carriage system although not all possess a separate fresh water closet. 47 waste water closets still remain and progress in their elimination is very slow. Two were converted during the year under review.

Number of waste water closets end 1961.	47
Number of conversions during year.	2
Number of fresh water closets.	1430
Number of houses on water carriage system.	1406

Smoke Abatement.

The authority co-operates in the joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution formed by 27 local authorities and has one lead peroxide guage for the determination of sulphur pollution sited in the Cemetery grounds.

Smoke emissions from factory chimneys during the year did not call for any action other than verbal cautions.

Water Supply.

The district is served by upland surface water from the Oldham County Borough supply. Filtration and sterilization by the chloramine process takes place at the source of the supply. 4 bacteriological samples taken in the district were reported as satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspections.

During the year 581 visits were made to 328 premises, namely

143	dwellinghouses.
162	shops and business premises.
18	factories.
5	schools.

In the dwellinghouses 156 defects or nuisances were found and during the year 143 of these matters were remedied. It was not found necessary to serve formal notices to ensure that the repairs were carried out, 26 informal notices and personal visits obtaining the desired results.

5 houses were found to be verminous but each infestation responded to a lindane/DDT treatment and was satisfactorily cleared.

No legal action was called for during visits to the shops and in general conditions are satisfactory.

There are 5 schools in the district, one being a private school. Although each is drained and has a water supply, one school still possesses and has to make use of obsolete trough-type closets, three schools have unsatisfactory washing facilities and unsatisfactory drinking water facilities.

There are 27 factories among which 18 visits were made. No notices or prosecutions under the act were found necessary.

Rodent Control Work.

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses.	Other Premises	Agri-cultural.
Number of properties in the district.	11	1395	268	6
Number of properties inspected.	6	30	12	1
Number of properties found infested by:-				
Rats - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	3	14	-	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	6	-	-
Number of infested properties treated by local authority.	3	20	-	-

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The majority of the shops in the district sell foodstuffs of one type or another. Out of 90 shops there are 64 selling food for human consumption. The various trades are represented as under:-

General grocers.	29
Greengrocers.	2
Fishmongers.	1
Butchers.	6
Fish Fryers.	5
Bakers/Confectioners.	5
Sugar Confectioners.	5
Inns, Clubs etc.	11
	64

During the year it was not found necessary to issue condemnation certificates in respect of any food from the above shops.

There are 25 distributors of milk in the district, of whom 24 sell only "Sterilized Milk". Only designated milk is retailed.

There are no slaughter-houses registered in the district.

Sampling of foods is carried out by the Lancashire County Council. There were samples of foodstuffs obtained in the district, as listed below:-

Ice Cream	1
Pork Sausages	1
Cornflour	1
Golden raising powder	1
Fruit drink (saschet - to be diluted)	1
Castor Oil	1
Aspirin tablets B.P.	1

Twenty four samples of milk were obtained, (two of which were Channel Islands Milk).

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(i) By the local authority.	6
(ii) By other bodies or persons.	22

Inspection of dwelling-houses.

Number inspected formally or informally for housing defects.	69
Total inspections made.	121
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	30
Number made fit following informal action.	26
Number so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation at year end. (estimated).	121

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
By owners.	Nil
By local authority in default.	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts.

Number which after service of formal notices were rendered fit.	
By owners.	Nil
By local authority in default.	Nil
Number demolished.	34
Number closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner.	11
Parts of buildings closed.	Nil
Number of clearance areas represented.	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts 1949/54.

	Standard.	Improvement.
Number of applications for grants made by private individuals.	13	Nil
Number of dwellinghouses affected.	13	Nil
Number of applications approved.	13	Nil
Any other action under the Acts.	Nil	Nil

Factories.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections. (3)	Number of Written notices. (4)	Number of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	14	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	13	6	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-

Defects.

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

Outworkers.

Nature of Work. (1)	Section 110: No of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c). (2)	Section 110: No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	Section 110: No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	Section 111: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Section 111: Notices served. (6)	Section 111: Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel — Making	-	-	-	-	-	-
" — Cleaning & Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-